2. In regard to the second point, the canal is one of minor importance. If what you mean is a road, there is a provision of Rs. 1,000 in the budget in the current year.

3. As regards your request for the speedy completion of the Kuttikal trace, that subject was replied to when I was dealing with the subject of Mr. Padmanabha Kammathi.

4. Then, your fourth point is about improvements to the road from Mamala to Piravam. This came up as one of the items of programme for the last session of the Assembly. There is a provision of Rs. 1,500 in the current year's budget on this account.

5. Then, your fifth point relates to the increase of the maintenance grant for the 10th mile of the Puttankurisu-Kizhakkambalam road. Your request is that the maintenance be raised to Rs. 100 a mile. The Chief Engineer says that the grant has already been raised.

6. Your sixth point relates to the taking over by the Government of the Porakad-Popparakadavu road for departmental maintenance. As you know, this subject was raised by Mr. C. P. Tarakan at the last session. This road too is covered by the general orders for taking up for maintenance such roads. The orders on the subject have been issued.

7. With regard to the seventh item, *viz.*, expediting the construction of the bridge at the Alwaye ferry crossing, an estimate for this purpose is under scrutiny.

8. The other points are also receiving attention.

67. Communications in the Parur taluk.

MR. V. K. KUNJUKRISHNAN VAIDYAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that the absence of communications and other public works was a long-standing complaint of the people of Parur. Though Parur taluk was among the smallest in the State in point of area, its revenue, population, etc., were much higher than those of many others. The configuration of the land and the existence of Cochin territory adjoining several of its *pakuthies* rendered suitable means of communication essential. The taluk had not in the past received from the Government an attention adequate to the revenue derived from it.

A bridge on the Parur-Kuriyapalli road near Pallikadavu was included in a programme of urgent works in the Kottayam Division prepared sixteen years ago, but all that had yet been done, in spite of series of representations, was the collection of a few materials for the bridge. The immediate construction of the bridge, the improvement of the road from there as far as the Kuriyapalli chowkey four miles away, so as to render it fit for cart traffic, and the construction of a small bridge connecting Mutakunnam with the main land were essential in the interests of a very large section of the people. The branch road to Munambam from the Parur-Kuriyapalli road should also be improved. The construction of two culverts on the Parur-Chennamangalam road and the metalling of the unmetalled portions should be carried out. A ferry boat should be stationed at the crossing to Puttanvelikara. The reconstruction of the bridge near Kottachitapadam should be taken up early.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kunjukrishnan Vaidyan, in regard to your first two points, *viz.*, the construction of the Parur-Kuriyapalli road and Parur-Munambam road, I may say that these roads are at present fit only to be used as foot-paths. The question of their improvement and widening will be taken up as soon as the Vadakkekara bridge, now under construction, is completed.

MEMBER: Only two culverts have to be constructed. There is no other work there. The Municipality has written to the Government already in the matter that they will be able to complete the road.

DEWAN: That matter will receive consideration.

2. Then the third point relates to the construction of the Parur-Chennamangalam road. The traffic at present passing over the road does not justify any very heavy expenditure on it.

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3. In regard to your fourth point, the purpose of the bridge is already served by a ferry, and until the road is made fit for cart traffic, it cannot be said that a bridge will be absolutely necessary. That question also can be taken up after the completion of the Vadakkekara bridge.

4. The other points brought up in your representation will be taken up for consideration.

The Assembly adjourned at 4-47 P. M. to meet again at 11-30 A.M., on Friday, the 26th February, 1926.

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